

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05 L-02 H-02 SAJ-01 /089 W

----- 107190

R 301215Z APR 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8781

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 613

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 3851

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, EEC, CH

SUBJECT: SOAMES' VISIT TO PRC

REF: A) EC BRUSSELS 2428 B) EC BRUSSELS 2760

C) STATE 80743 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ON APRIL 29 WE REVIEWED WITH HANNAY, SOAMES' CHEF DE CABINET, PROSPECTS FOR SOAMES' MAY 4-10 VISIT TO THE PRC. HANNAY EMPHASIZED THE EXPLORATORY NATURE OF THE VISIT. HE STRESSED THAT, WHILE THE VISIT IS SIGNIFICANT, NOTHING STARTLING IS ANTICIPATED. THE COMMISSION GROUP IS AWARE THE CHINESE MAY RAISE THE POSSIBILITY OF ACCREDITING AN AMBASSADOR TO THE EC BUT DOES NOT INTEND TO TAKE ANY INITIATIVE. THEY FEEL MOST OF THE TALKS WILL INVOLVE EXPLAINING TO THE CHINESE THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONING OF THE EC AND DISCUSSING IN GENERAL TERMS THE FUTURE OF "EUROPE." END SUMMARY.

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2. HANNAY CONFIRMED THAT EC COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT

SOAMES' VISIT IS TO BE "EXPLORATORY" IN NATURE. HE NOTED THAT THE TRIP FOLLOWS RECENT VISITS BY SEVERAL EC MEMBER STATE DELEGATIONS TO THE PRC. (IN THIS CONNECTION, HE REMARKED THAT SOAMES HAD SPOKEN WITH BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS PRIOR TO THE LATTER'S DEPARTURE FOR PEKING AND THAT SOAMES INTENDED TO GET A DEBRIEFING FROM TINDEMANS ON APRIL 30).

3. HANNAY SAID THERE HAD BEEN PRESS REPORTS BASED ON THE TINDEMANS VISIT THAT THE CHINESE ARE CONSIDERING ACCREDITING AN AMBASSADOR TO THE EC. THE COMMUNITY WAS QUITE FLEXIBLE ON THIS MATTER AND INTENDED TO WAIT FOR A CHINESE PROPOSAL. THE COMMISSION WAS WILLING TO CONTINUE DOING BUSINESS WITH THE PRESENT CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM WITH OR WITHOUT FORMAL ACCREDITATION TO THE EC.

4. HANNAY SAID THAT THE CHINESE HAD NOT PROVIDED A SPECIFIC SCHEDULE AND AGENDA FOR THE DISCUSSIONS BUT HAD CONFINED THEMSELVES TO TALKING IN GENERAL TERMS ONLY. AS A RESULT, THE COMMISSION DELEGATION IS RATHER UNSURE OF WHAT WOULD BE EXPECTED OF IT. HOWEVER, THE PRESENCE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS WELLENSTEIN AND DEKERGOLAY, ONE OF HIS DEPUTIES--BOTH OF WHOM ARE WELL-VERSED IN TRADE POLICY AND EC RELATIONS WITH STATE-TRADING COUNTRIES--WOULD PERMIT THE COMMISSION SIDE TO HANDLE ANY SPECIFICS WHICH MIGHT ARISE. WE ASKED IF THE

COMMISSION WAS NOT UNEASY BECAUSE THERE HAD BEEN NO PRIOR AGREEMENT ON THE SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED. HANNAY RESPONDED THAT THE DELEGATION WAS PREPARED TO BE "FLEXIBLE" AND THAT HE WAS CERTAIN THE VISIT WOULD PROVE PROFITABLE. SOAMES AND HIS COLLEAGUES EXPECTED TO SPEND MUCH OF THEIR TIME EXPLAINING THE ORGANIZATION OF THE EC INCLUDING THE DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY BETWEEN THE COMMISSION AND THE MEMBER STATES IN VARIOUS AREAS. HANNAY ALSO MENTIONED THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE OUTLOOK FOR "EUROPEAN UNITY" IS LIKELY TO FIGURE IN THE TALKS.

5. ACCORDING TO HANNAY, WHILE IN PEKING, SOAMES PLANS TO USE AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC REMARKS ON THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF EUROPE AND ITS ROLE IN THE PRESENT WORLD.

6. HANNAY THANKED US FOR THE BRIEFING GIVEN TO THE  
EC COMMISSION OFFICE IN WASHINGTON BY EA/PRCM SAYING  
THAT SOAMES HAD FOUND THE INFORMATION PARTICULARLY USEFUL  
AND THAT IT HAD FORMED AN INTEGRAL PART OF HIS BRIEFING  
MATERIALS FOR THE TRIP. GREENWALD

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## Message Attributes

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